

VASILE BLAGA, the Minister of Administration and Interior

Also for the first time, the Directorate received the support of a strategic committee in which there were also involved representatives of the civil society, some that activated mainly in the field of anti-corruption fight. This committee, at its turn, shall provide the transparency that we need for the efficient managing of the internal corruption phenomenon. Therefore it should be seen very clearly that, on one side, we do not intend to cover anyone, and on the other side we do not make any pressure on any of our ministry staff.

As regards the selection of the directorate's personnel, it was carried out with very much exigency, the foreign partners being involved in each stage of it. Nevertheless, we faced, unfortunately, also regrettable events at high level which we hope shall be isolated in the future. The fact that we are not disposed to do any compromise is confirmed also by the great number of MAI employees, of whose activities we informed the Prosecutor's Office during last year.

In 2005, the Ministry of Administration and Interior submitted 2,455 reports towards the Prosecutor's Offices, out of which 700 are referring to corruption acts and the rest of them to different deviations from the professional ethics. Several files regarding major infringements made by former employees of the ministry are also in different stages of criminal proceedings and shall reach soon on the judges' tables. You know very well the extremely important case that we are working to in the area of Satu-Mare town, where almost all the staff working within the Border Police shall be brought to justice. To all these there shall be added soon the concrete results of the concrete work related to the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, institution set up within this twinning project.

At the end, I would like to express again my gratitude to our foreign partners who contributed by their efforts to the setting up of this institution. To the Embassy of the two states – United Kingdom and Spain, to the delegation of the European Commission, to Mr. Scheele in person, to Mister Foster, who we can consider the father of this Directorate, and with whom we had most contacts among all the counselors of pre-accession attaché to Bucharest. I

thank you for the attention and I wish many successes to my colleagues from the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, because the way in which the ministry is perceived, first by the Romanian citizen and then by the citizens of the member states, depends on their activity.